



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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Record Number of Candidates Pass Seattle Police Officer Exam

As of October 31, 2025, 1,182 candidates have passed the City's civil service exam for police officers — the highest number since the Public Safety Civil Service Commission began tracking results in 2012. This surpasses the previous record of 1,163 successful candidates set in 2024.

The Seattle Civil Service Department and the Public Safety Civil Service Commission (PSCSC) anticipate the upward trend will continue through year's end. Applications are also on pace to exceed 2024's record totals, with full results to be released in the Civil Service Department's 2025 annual report.

The PSCSC credits this progress to the City's success in attracting a larger pool of qualified police officer candidates. Key efforts include new collective bargaining agreements with the Seattle Police Officers Guild that raised officer pay; continued investments in marketing and outreach; and enhanced collaboration between the PSCSC, the Seattle Police Department, and other stakeholders to streamline and strengthen the hiring process.

This milestone was achieved without any changes to the civil service exam or scoring standards. Seattle's police officer exam continues to assess core competencies essential to constitutional and community-based policing — including integrity, community relations and communication skills, critical thinking, appropriate use of force/authority, capacity to understand and assist individuals in distress, bias awareness, and commitment to equality.

ABOUT THE PSCSC: The [Public Safety Civil Service Commission \("PSCSC"\)](#) is an independent body that oversees the civil service system for sworn police and fire personnel in the City of Seattle. The PSCSC makes and enforces rules for examination, appointment, layoff, discharge; directs development and administration of more than a dozen merit-based entry-level and promotional exams for the Seattle Fire and Police departments; and hears appeals of disciplinary actions and other civil service matters.